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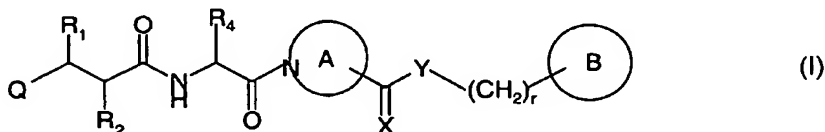
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(54) Title: ANTIBACTERIAL AGENTS



(57) Abstract: Compounds of formula (II) have antibacterial activity; wherein: Q represents a radical of formula -N(OH)CH(=O) or formula -C(=O)NH(OH); R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen, methyl or trifluoromethyl or, except when Q is a radical of formula -N(OH)CH(=O), a hydroxy, halo or amino group; R<sub>2</sub> represents a group R<sub>10</sub>-(D)<sub>n</sub>-(ALK)<sub>m</sub> wherein R<sub>10</sub> represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or heterocyclyl group and ALK represents a straight or branched divalent C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynylene, or C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynylene radical, and may be interrupted by one or more non-adjacent -NH-, -O- or -Slinkages, D represents -NH-, -O- or -S-, and m and n are independently 0 or 1; R<sub>4</sub> represents the side chain of a natural or non-natural alpha amino acid; ring A represents an optionally substituted monocyclic heterocyclic ring containing from 5 to 7 ring atoms, one of which is the nitrogen atom shown, the remaining ring atoms being selected from compatible combinations of carbon, oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; X is oxygen or sulfur; Y is oxygen, sulfur or -NH-; R is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and ring B represents an optionally substituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system.